

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OECD P 17679 191856Z

43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-03 INR-11 NEA-14 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-12 SP-03 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 SWF-02

OMB-01 SSO-00 EURE-00 NSC-07 INRE-00 DRC-01 SS-20

AGR-20 /188 W

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FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 3330

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

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PASS: USDA/FAS FOR GOODMAN AND FRASER

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, OECD

SUBJECT: EC BEEF IMPORT BAN

1. UNDER AGENDA ITEM 14, "FOLLOW-UP TO THE DECLARATION
ADOPTED MAY 30," SECGEN AT COUNCIL MEETING JULY 18
INITIALLY STATED VIEW THAT EC BEEF IMPORT BAN ANNOUNCED
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PAGE 02 OECD P 17679 191856Z

JULY 16 RAISED QUESTION OF CONSISTENCY WITH MINISTERIAL

DECLARATION AND INVITED CONSULTATION AT LAST PRE-VACATION COUNCIL SESSION JULY 23 IN ACCORDANCE WITH PENULTIMATE PROVISION OF DECLARATION.

2. THE EC COMMISSION MADE STATEMENT LATER SUPPORTED BY GERMANY AND FRANCE, AND, LESS STRONGLY, BY DENMARK AND UK, SAYING BEEF IMPORT BAN WAS SECTORAL MEASURE NOT COVERED BY MINISTERIAL DECLARATION; MOREOVER, THEY BELITTLED IMPORTANCE AND EFFECT OF THE MEASURE ON TRADE. US DEL EXPRESSED GRATIFICATION AT SECGEN'S INITIATIVE AND AGREED THAT IT WAS APPROPRIATE TO CONSIDER MEAT IMPORT BAN IN TERMS OF GENERAL TRADE POLICY AND OECD TRADE PLEDGE. IT WAS IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN ALERT SURVEILLANCE OF SUCH MEASURES AND TO CONSULT PROMPTLY TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY ARE SUBJECT TO TRADE PLEDGE. THE US HAD RECENTLY REAFFIRMED ITS POLICY OF PLACING NO RESTRICTIONS ON MEAT IMPORTS, BUT IF EEC ACTION STANDS, ESPECIALLY WITHOUT DISCUSSION, IT MIGHT AFFECT ACTION TAKEN BY US AND OTHER COUNTRIES. ONLY OTHER COMMENT WAS FROM AUSTRIA, IN LINE WITH US. AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND REMAINED SILENT.

3. SECGEN THEN MODIFIED HIS PROPOSAL AS FOLLOWS:

(1) SECRETARIAT TO COLLECT APPROPRIATE INFORMATION,
(2) AGRICULTURE-TRADE JOINT WORKING PARTY TO BE CONVENED BEFORE END OF NEXT WEEK, AND (3) COUNCIL, ON BASIS OF INFORMATION COLLECTED BY SECRETARIAT AND JWP REPORT, THEN TO CONSIDER QUESTION INCLUDING RELEVANCE OF TRADE PLEDGE.

4. US AND EC COMMISSION ACCEPTED THIS AD REFERENDUM; ONLY QUESTION COMMISSION REP INDICATED WAS WHETHER APPROPRIATE PERSONNEL AVAILABLE NEXT WEEK. SECRETARIAT NOW PREPARING FOR JULY 25 MEETING OF JWP, ASSUMING CLEARANCES COB JULY 22. NO DATE FOR FURTHER COUNCIL DISCUSSION WAS DECIDED, AND EARLY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF JWP REPORT UNLIKELY, SINCE LAST PRESENTLY SCHEDULED

COUNCIL MEETING BEFORE SEPTEMBER IS TO BE JULY 23.

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PAGE 03 OECD P 17679 191856Z

5. AGR(74)27, ISSUED YESTERDAY, PRESENTS A MEAT SITUATION REPORT WHICH IS UP-TO-DATE (EXCEPT FOR EC BEEF

IMPORT BAN) AND CONTAINS ANALYSIS IN DEPTH. UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED BY COB JULY 22 PARIS TIME, MISSION WILL CONFIRM AGREEMENT TO JWP MEETING.

6. REQUEST WASHINGTON COMMENTS URGENTLY, WITH

INSTRUCTIONS FORHGWPM MEETING LIKELY TO LSFB PLACE JULY
25. MISSION WILL ALSO NEED INSTRUCTION ON WHETHER TO
PRESS FOR EARLY COUNCIL MEETING AT THAT MEETING AND IN
OTHER CONTACTS; WOULD BE HIGHLY DESIRABLE TO KNOW USG
VIEW ON THIS POINT BEFORE JULY 23 COUNCIL MEETING.
BROWN

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